

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE WEBB COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2001
LAREDO, TEXAS**

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Jerry Vasquez
Judith Gutierrez
Felix Velasquez
Miguel Urdiales

County Judge
Commissioner Prct. #1
Commissioner Prct. #2
Commissioner Prct. #3
Commissioner Prct. #4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 9th of February 2001. Present also were Ms. Selina G. Reyes, Deputy County Clerk, representing Mr. Henry Flores, Deputy County Clerk, various officers and others interested in the business of the court.

01-02-126

- 1. Call to Order – Judge Martinez**
Invocation – Mr. William N. Hall, Jr.
Pledge of Allegiance – said by all

01-02-127

2. Approval of Minutes –

Motion to accept the minutes as submitted with the following corrections:

1-10-2201 } Page 7. 6. – g. (3.) Should state that the salary be \$ 26,229.00

1-22-2001 } Page 4. The first item should state that Commissioner Velasquez
was appointed to the Re-districting Committee.

Page 9. 7. – d. } Should state that Commissioner Velasquez
appointee was Fidel Flores.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion to move up item **01-02-131 6. – i. (2.)** :

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Presentation by The Waters Consulting Group, Inc on the final report of the Comprehensive Compensation and Classification Study for Webb County.

Motion to accept the study as presented, comeback with current numbers and run payroll again.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

01-02-128

3. Communications –

Judge Martinez read a letter into the record regarding the condition of the Webb County Morgue. The letter expressed the concerns of all the Justice of the Peace in Webb County.

Judge Martinez announced that on February 20, 2001 there would be a public meeting at Casa Blanca Ballroom regarding application for Municipal Solid Waste Permit No. 2286.

Certificate of Appreciation for Census 2000 presented to Webb County by The United States Department of Commerce.

At this time the following persons addressed the court regarding concerns that they had with the Casa Blanca Golf Course and other matters:

Mr. Hector Farias
Mr. Hector Trevino
Mr. Jesus Sanchez
Mr. Armando Trevino
Mr. Luis Alfonso Diaz De Leon

Motion to move up item **01-02-131 6. – 9. (i):**

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Charles Graham III, Petroleum Engineer made a brief presentation on oil and gas of tracts of land on Webb County School Lands.

Motion to recess the meeting for 2:00 p.m.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner

Motion to accept all reports as submitted for Treasurer (including Sales Tax, Investment and regular), Road & Bridge, Facilities, Utilities, Tax Assessor.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-02-131

6. – a.

Mr. Sergio Delgado, Chief Appraiser made a brief presentation to the court on finding from information provided to him by Webb County and necessary procedures for increasing the senior citizen tax exemption.

6.- b.
(1.)

Motion to adopt the Webb County Investment Policy for 2001 in accordance with Public Funds Investments Act.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – b.
(2.)

Motion to approve the following list of financial institutions authorized to sell investments of Webb County for 2001:

Texpool – Logic – Ambac Capital Financing and NBC Bank of Laredo

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – c.

Motion to fill slot #1528 (Maintenance Worker I) at \$ 6.09 an hour effective February 12, 2001.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – d. (406th Court)

Motion to approve the following title changes to:

Slot#1867

From: Adm. Asst./Office Manager

To: Adm. Asst./Office Manager/Court Interpreter at an annual
Salary of \$ 28,475.00 (increase of \$ 3,931.00); and

Slot#1868

From: Adm. Court Clerk/Court Interpreter

To: Asst. Court Clerk at an annual salary of \$ 17,441 (decrease of
\$ 3,931.00)

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to move up item **01-02-131 6. – g.:**

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve a “part time” position due to a “Border Grant” received
by the Texas Department of Public Safety that will increase caseload
substantially.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to move up item **01-02-135 10. – e. :**

Motion to table the item:

Action regarding the City of Laredo's request for \$ 110,000.00 to provide Public health services to non-city areas of Webb County which included the city's right to establish and collect fees, for health services, inspection and/or other environmental health regulatory services with the revenue generated remaining the City of Laredo's and any matters incident thereto (Approved by the Webb County Commissioners Court without the permit fee provision on or about November 27, 2000).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

The court appointed Commissioner Gutierrez, Rhonda Tiffin, Planning Director and Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, Engineer to meet with Mr. Garcia, Interim Director for the City Health Department between now and the end of the fiscal year. They are to bring back their recommendation for the court to negotiate a possible Interlocal Agreement.

6. – e.

Motion to fill slot #1402 (Deputy Constable) at an annual salary of \$ 25,210 effective February 16, 2001.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 1 } Commissioner Urdiales

Abstain: 0

6. – f.

Motion to fill slot# 338 (Detention Officer) at \$ 9.98 an hour, slot #784 (Probation Officer) at \$ 10.76 an hour and Slot #353 (LVN) at \$ 13.00 an hour effective February 12, 2001.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

**6. – f.
(2.)**

Motion to approve the following submission of the following grant applications to the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office:

- ? Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block
Grant (JAIBG) in the amount of \$ 200,000 – No cash match
- ? Purchase of Juvenile Services in the amount of \$ 15,582 with a cash match of \$ 6,418.00; and
- ? Mediation Program in the amount of \$ 33,608 – No cash match

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – h.

Motion to fill slot #1694 (Substitute) at \$ 6.15 an hour for 15 hours a week.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – i.
(1.)

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator provided the court with a study regarding the appointment of Reserve Deputies for Webb County.

The court will review report and action to be taken at the next meeting.

6. – i.
(3.)

Motion to approve the transfer of slot# 300 from the Central Jury to Constable Reyes department for a Deputy Constable effective 2-16-2001.
The salary to be comparable to other Constable Deputies salaries.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – i.
(4.)

Motion to select the following members to the Webb County Scoring Committee:

Homero Ramirez, County Attorney
Carlos R. Villarreal, Executive Administrator
Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent
Leo Flores, County Auditor
Rhonda Tiffin, Director Planning Department
Tomas M. Rodriguez, Jr., P.E., County Engineer

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – i.

(5.)

Motion to appoint Commissioner Gutierrez to work on the establishment of standards for organization that receive the county Hotel-Motel tax and; authorize the County Attorney to review the State Statutes and provide Commissioners Court with a report for receipt of funding at the next Commissioners Court meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – i.

(6.)

Motion to rehabilitate stable area at Laredo Community College, provide a year's cost of maintenance & operations and authorize the storage of horse and carriage at the parking lot located at the new acquired site of the Sheriff's administration offices (also known as Wells Fargo Bank Building). This request should not exceed \$ 24,000.00.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4

Against: 1 } Commissioner Velasquez

Abstain: 0

6. – i.

(7.)

Motion to finalize Legislative agenda for Webb County and to set priorities as deemed necessary by the Commissioners Court for submission via Resolution to our elected representatives.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to move up item **01-02-135 10. – g.:**

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to enter into a contract with Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation for the preparation and submission of permitting (Presidential, environmental, transportation, etc.), preliminary engineering schematics, surveying, aerial mapping and photography, environmental data, and preliminary bridge design at a cost not to exceed \$ 669,772.00 and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**6. – j.
(1. & 2.)**

Motion to approve the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Administrative Services Agreement for Webb County's Health Insurance program for Fy 2000-2001, authority for the County Judge to execute all documents and;

Approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield Stop Loss Contract or Webb County's Health Insurance program for Fiscal Year 2000-2001, authority for County Judge to execute all documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – j.
(3.)

Motion to defer this item:

Discussion regarding Webb County's end of the year report for Fy 1999-2000
on Webb County's:

Health Insurance Program
Worker's Compensation Program
Property/Casualty/Liability
Loss Control

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – k.

Motion to construct a parking lot for the Head Start Department at 2400
South Jarvis (696 sq.ft.) and at 2801 Ireland (961 sq. ft.) for a total cost
of \$ 3,314.00 (Funding available from Head Start acct. 903-4207-8801).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – l.

Motion to table this item:

Action to obtain the services of Cristina Pena Lara, CRS Realty, in the amount
not to exceed \$ 12,500 and ordering an exemption from competitive bidding
requirements pursuant to Sec. 262.024 Subsection (a) (7), Texas Local
Government Code (competitive bidding, competitive bidding process) for the
purchase of 50 acres for a future reverse osmosis desalination water treatment
plant.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

At this time Judge Martinez was excused from the meeting, Commissioner Gutierrez presided over the rest of the meeting.

6. – m.

(1.)

Motion to approve title change in slot #1748 as follows: (no change in department budget):

From: Plant Operator I at \$ 8.13 an hour

To: Plant Operator II at \$ 9.67 an hour

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – m.

(2.)

Motion to defer this item:

Presentation by Mr. Dana Batiste, United Water, Inc., on the utilization of ground water from Webb County's School land.

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – n

(1.)

Motion to issue/ratify "Certifications regarding compliance with Plat requirements and the connection of utilities to authorize utility connections to the following properties:

Connection(s) qualifying under Sec. 232.029(i), Texas Local Government Code

? Lot 91, Ranchitos Los Fresenos (electricity –1 dwelling)

Connection (s) qualifying under Section 232.029 (c)(1), Texas Local Government Code

? Tract 103, Unit VI, Ranchos Penitas West (electricity – 1 dwelling for a total of 3 dwelling)

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – n.

(2.)

Motion to fill position of a Code Enforcement Office in the Webb County Attorney's Office to perform code and regulatory enforcement activities in conjunction with the Webb County Planning Department. Duties include but are not limited to regulatory enforcement, activities of the Webb County Commissioners Court. Funding for this position is available under line item #606-8001-3501 Grant Revenues (being grant funds reimbursing Webb County personnel costs associated with 911 addressing activities). The continuation of this position will be contingent upon funding through Grant funds, 911 addressing, 911 addressing maintenance or similar sources.

This motion was amended to include that slot # 1839 from the Tax Office be used for this purpose.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-02-132

7. – a.

Motion to authorize the submission of a contract amendment to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHA) for TCDP Contract # 720889 (Fy200/2001 Community Development Project). The contract amendment will involve the transfer of \$ 45,000 of grant Funds from the Solid Waste Disposal Facilities line item (Purchase of a tire shredder) to water improvements to Colonia Los Corralitos (This Contract amendment will allow the use of any surplus funds in this line item to be used in the platting of this colonia and will be in the best interest to the county. Contract amendment will be at no additional cost to the county).

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. – b.

Motion to authorize the creation of the Neighborhood Initiative (NI) Coordinator Position/slot at a salary up to \$ 30,000 under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Neighborhood Initiative (NI) Grant Program (Contract between HUD and Webb County approved by Commissioners Court on January 10, 2001 and executed on January 30, 2001) and authorization to advertise and fill the NI Coordinator Slot (Salary of NI Coordinator position will be at no cost to the County and NI Grant will be a five year program terminating January 2, 2006).

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. – c.

Motion to approve the contract with Lopez Construction with the following modifications:

1. Authorize the submission of Change Order #1 to the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Housing Colonia Initiative (HCI) Program. Change Order #1 will include utilizing CAA Weatherization Program activities items that pertain to weatherization.
2. Reduction in the amount of \$ 2,400 for Housing Rehab for Gustavo Davila, Abstract 1845 P1005 – Oilton, Texas 78371
3. Reduction in the amount of \$ 3,400 for Housing Rehab for Jesus Landero, 700 Behler; Street – Lot 6 Block 12 Mirando City, Texas 78369.
4. Reduction in the amount of \$ 4,300 for Housing Rehab for Matilde G. Johnson, 6th Street and Main Street – Lot 7-9 Block 11 – Mirando City, Texas 78369
5. Reduction in the amount of \$ 2,200 for Housing Rehab for Esperanza Leal, Lot 3 and 4 Block 83 – Bruni, Texas 78344

This modification is in the best interest to the county and does not substantially change the scope of contract or cause the contract amount to exceed the next lowest.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

7. – d.

Motion to authorize the advertisement and solicitation of applications to fill Slot # 1603 9Job Assessment/Case Management Counselor – full time) for the Welfare to Work Department at an annual Salary up to \$ 26,000 funded under the U.S. Department of Labor.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

7. – e.

Motion to advertise and fill slot # 1602 (Intake/Verification Clerk – full-time) for The Welfare to work Department at an annual salary of \$ 20,000 funded under the U.S. Department of Labor.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-02-133

8. – a. – e.

Motion to approve the following items:

Motion to approve/ratify the submission of a grant application by CAA Rural Transportation Program to the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)) In the amount of \$ 82,000 for the purchase of a new bus (Funding is available for a Vehicle Capital Replacement (VCR) grant from TXDOT. Grant requires cash match of \$ 2,000 which is available from the current county grant match for this program) and;

Approve budget amendments to Rural Transportation Program for Fy 2000-2001 (CAA Advisory Board has reviewed amendments and recommends approval) and;

Approve Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Fy 2001 in the amount of \$ 377,048 (The CSBG is the umbrella grant that funds the administrative and operating expenses of the CAA as a whole. CAA Advisory Board has reviewed and recommends approval and;

Approve to fund slots #1847, 1850, 1848, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1849, 1794, 1793 (Social Services Clerks – part-time) for a period of one month (Feb. 1st-28th) from available funds under Fund 902 (EFSSP – county grant match) and;

Approve Executive Director to submit request to Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for additional CP&L funds for Weatherization Program (WAP) in the amount of \$25,000 (CAA Advisory Board reviewed and recommends approval).

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

01-02-133

9. – a.

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and award the following bids:

Bid # 2001-52 One 20 passenger bus- recommendation -State Wide Bus Sales
Bid # 2001-48 Two Motorgraders with two year Power Train warranty –
Recommendation – Nueces Power Equipment
Bid # 2001-49 One low deck self propelled paver- Nueces Power Equipment
**lease purchase
Bid # 2001-53 One truck Mount Paver – recommendation – H&V Equipment
Services

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

9. – b.

Motion to purchase eight complete computer systems from ICSS in the amount of \$ 8,616.00 for J.J.A.E.P. from fund 149-1301-8801.

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

9. – c.

Motion to include Killiam Ranch Properties LTD to our annual contract for flexible base at \$ 1.25 per cubic yard (loaded for the county).

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. – d.

Motion to solicit bids for the following:

? Uniforms for Road & Bridge, Golf Course Maintenance and Maintenance personnel and;

? Agricultural and Botanical Supplies for the Golf Course

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-02-135

10. – a.

Motion to accept, by Order, Right-Of-Way dedications from property owners in San Carlos Subdivision, Phase I & II, out of the following tracts:

San Carlos Phase I – Lot 1, Block 5

Jose Luis & Elizabeth G. Garcia

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. – b.

Motion to enter into a contract with Taxnetusa to place data on their World Wide Webb database servers with home page for a base price \$ 1,000 per year based on monthly up dates which will be available at a cost of \$ 80.00 per update which includes hosting per update which includes hosting all current and delinquent Webb County tax data(Owners name, mailing address, legal description, account number, appraised value, exemptions, taxable value, total tax penalties, attorney fees and interest and amounts paid and date of payment0, update information weekly or monthly and Taxnetusa shall have the right to place a link to the Webb County Search Area for their advanced search subscriptions service, with a right to cancel, by either party on sixty days notice and authorize the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. – c.

Motion to enter into a contract amendment with the Texas Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2001 Rural Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Community for the Community Action Agency revising the maximum amount payable under the grant \$ 615,395.00 (which incorporates an oil overcharge reduction of \$ 7,335.00 and rollover from Fy2000 of an additional \$ 5,400.00 and reduction of the Operational Expenses in the amount of Operational Expenses in the amount of \$ 1,935.00) and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. – d.

Motion to amend the governing regulations of the Webb County Community Action Agency Article III, Section III, Advisory Board Composition, Category A, to reflect that the membership shall be comprised of eight members as follows: The Webb County Judge, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2, Webb County Commissioner Pct.3, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4, City of Laredo Council Member District 5, and City of Laredo council Member District 8.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. – f.

Motion to authorize the County Attorney to enter into arbitration mediation regarding the equal employment opportunity commission charge #360A10441 filed by Ricardo Molina against Webb County Community Action Agency. The court appointed Commissioner Urdiales to represent Webb County as mediator.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Addendum:

Motion to approve the formation of a Traffic Safety Committee consisting of a representative of Webb County Attorney's Office, a representative of the Webb County Sheriff Department, The Webb County Planning Director, The Webb County Engineer and The Webb County Road & Bridge Superintendent. The duty of the committee will be to conduct a comprehensive traffic study of Webb County and formulate a traffic safety plan. The parameters of the study will include, but not limited to, traffic regulation, establishment of reasonable and prudent speeds on county road located in residential and rural areas, traffic calming devices, ingress and egress to residential subdivision from state and federal highways and performance standards for traffic circulation in new subdivision developments.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 4
Against: 0
Abstain: 0